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Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04

CEA-01 OES-06 IO-13 CU-02 /130 W
---------- 008419
R 261119Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3585
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 19928

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EC, EX, PFOR, GW
SUBJECT: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE

SUMMARY: FONOFF HAS GIVEN US A STATUS REPORT ON EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AS SEEN FROM FRG. END SUMMARY.

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1. GENERAL COMMISSION:

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IT WILL DEFINITELY NOT MEET BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. IT DEFINITELY WILL MEET IN TUNIS BEFORE THE MIDDLE OF MARCH, WHEN ALGERIA WILL ASSUME THE CHAIR FROM TUNISIA, BECAUSE NO ONE, EUROPEAN OR ARAB, WANTS TO MEET IN ALGERIA. THE FRG THINKS THE MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR MID-FEBRUARY.

2. INTRODUCTION OF POLITICAL TALKS:
THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN FORMULATION FOR HANDLING "POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS" FROM WHAT WAS USED AT LUXEMBOURG. FRG IS WILLING TO TAKE UP POLITICAL SUBJECTS NOT RELATED TO MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT OR OIL QUESTIONS, E.G. LOS, CSCE, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION IN MEDITERRANEAN. IN FACT, IT SEES SOME MERIT IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS. ARABS ARE NOT PRESSING FOR POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS. FRG IS CONCERNED THAT, IF THERE IS NO PROGRESS AT CIEC, SOME OF THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED THERE WILL FIND THEIR WAY INTO THE DIALOGUE.

3. ARABS:
FRG SEES DIALOGUE HAVING BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON MORE RADICAL ARAB STATES. LIBYA IS NOW PARTICIPATING, IRAQ'S INTEREST IS GROWING, AND ALGERIA IS MORE MODERATE. THE MODERATE STATES DOMINATE THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE ARAB SIDE.

4. STATUS OF WORKING GROUPS:
THE RESULTS HAVE SO FAR BEEN MIXED:

A. INDUSTRIALIZATION: THE MOST PROMISING. AGREEMENT IS NEARING ON HARMONIZATION OF GENERAL CONTRACT CONDITIONS FOR FOREIGN FIRMS AND ON ADOPTION BY ARABS OF WESTERN TECHNICAL STANDARDS. THERE ARE NO PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION, THESE BEING LEFT TO BILATERAL CHANNELS.

B. AGRICULTURE: SOME NON-COMMERCIAL PROJECTS BEING DISCUSSED (SEE USEC BRUSSELS ECA-488), BUT FINANCING MUST COME FROM ARABS.

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C. INFRASTRUCTURE: SOME PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION: NEW SEAPORT IN SYRIA; ASSISTANCE TO ARABS TO

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CEA-01 OES-06 IO-13 CU-02 /130 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 19928

ESTABLISH A MANUFACTURING FACILITY FOR SMALL AIR-
CRAFT; FUTURE ASSISTANCE FOR CAPABILITY IN LAND
TRANSPORT.

D. FINANCIAL COOPERATION: DIFFICULT DISCUSSIONS
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REVOLVING AROUND INVESTMENT GUARANTEES AND INSURANCE AGAINST DEVALUATION.

E. TRADE: DISCUSSIONS STALEMATED, WITH EUROPEANS OFFERING A GENERAL NON-PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT AND THE ARABS INSISTING ON PREFERENCES.

F. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: ARABS WANT TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, WHICH EUROPEANS DO NOT WANT TO DISCUSS SINCE MATTER ALREADY DEALT WITH IN UNCTAD AND WIPO. INTRA-ARAB FIGHTING OVER PROJECTS WHICH EUROPEANS HAVE PROPOSED, E.G. SOLAR ENERGY, FURTHER IMPEDES PROGRESS. FRG REGARDS THIS WORKING GROUP TO BE THE WORST.

G. CULTURAL, LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS: DISCUSSIONS GOING VERY WELL. ARABS PLEASED THAT EUROPEANS HAVE AGREED TO HOLD SYMPOSIUM (PROBABLY IN FRG IN 1977) ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO CULTURES. DISCUSSION OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS IS PROGRESSING MORE SLOWLY. SUBJECTS INCLUDE A DECLARATION ON LIVING CONDITIONS OF FOREIGN WORKERS IN BOTH EUROPE AND ARAB COUNTRIES AND A CODE ON TRAINEES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

5. OUR FONOFF SOURCE WARNED THAT ARAB INTEREST IN POLITICIZATION OF DIALOGUE MAY INCREASE ONCE LEBANON SETTLEMENT APPEARS FIRM, SINCE LATTER HAS BEEN MAJOR ARAB PREOCCUPATION. HE ALSO SAID THAT EC MEMBERS ARE PUZZLED (AND DISAPPOINTED) AT LACK OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE DIALOGUE.
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TAGS: PFOR, EC, XF, GE, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
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